



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Festival Chorus will be celebrating a landmark
3 40th anniversary in May 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, Its anniversary performance will be held on May 1
5 in the Performing Arts Center at William Rainey Harper College
6 in Palatine; the program will include "Carmina Burana" by Carl
7 Orf and some of the marvelous music from the studios of MGM;
8 the highlight for The Festival Chorus (chorus) will be singing
9 the hymn they sang in their first performance, "One God", by
10 Ervin Drake and James Shirl; and

11 WHEREAS, The chorus was formed in 1965 as an offspring of
12 an ecumenical Thanksgiving Day service; from these humble
13 beginnings, the current community chorus of 90-plus voices
14 continues to share its love of music with the communities of
15 northeastern Illinois; the chorus meets and practices under the
16 auspices of William Rainey Harper College in Palatine where one
17 can earn college credit by participating and performing with
18 the chorus; and

19 WHEREAS, Each year, the chorus presents two major concerts
20 with professional orchestra; the members also perform at
21 various nursing homes and other community organizations and
22 have performed six concert tours in Europe and one in Canada
23 representing the community, State, and country; they were the
24 first American chorus invited to perform at a special mass at
25 the Vatican; and

26 WHEREAS, The chorus has been fortunate to receive a grant
27 from the Illinois Arts Council for the past three years; aside
28 from this aid, the organization is maintained through the
29 support of its members; therefore, be it

30 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

1 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we congratulate The Festival Chorus on its four decades of
3 musically brightening the lives of its many listeners and
4 extend our best wishes for many more years as one of Palatine's
5 most treasured community assets; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to The Festival Chorus as an expression of our
8 admiration and esteem.